Abstinence Education Contractors FY 2005

Name of Project:_Hart Independent School District - Care To Dream

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Population/service area	Hart ISD Student body Castro County youth

Project Summary:

The Care To Dream program targets k-12 students in Hart ISD with a strong character education program. The school administration sponsors a character announcement every morning. All teachers reinforce this announcement in their classroom for a 5-minute lesson. Several teachers on staff are W.A.I.T. and/or Loving Well instructors and utilize the program in their classroom. Loving Well is incorporated into the Language Arts classes 7-12. The high school/junior high health, psychology, and science classes are presented materials addressing decision-making, risk behaviors, STDs, and goal setting. Worth the Wait, My Body Book, WISE Choices, W.A.I.T., are all utilized to accomplish the desired results. Dream Catchers is presented to all 8-10 grade students. One of the foremost goals of the Care To Dream project is to guide the students in planning and looking to a exciting future. Hart ISD has a professional counselor on staff to provide individual, group and parent sessions for identified students. The goal of administration and program planners for CARE TO DREAM is to have at least 3 special assembly programs a vear. The special assemblies are designed to energize the daily activities and renew focus. One of the ongoing annual programs is P.A.Y Day (Preparing America's Youth Day). This day is an entire school day devoted to special programs by guest presenters designed like a professional workshop. The students choose the sessions they attend. The Student Council is actively involved in planning this day as well as the drug education activities.

Hart ISD will extend trainings to several surrounding school to expand the program effect. Hart ISD will provide assembly programs and train the trainer programs to the other two schools in the county.

The principle partner in the project is Hart ISD, with Dimmitt ISD and Nazareth ISD being collaborating partners. Several other surrounding schools participate by invitation in selected activities. The local churches and Lions Club actively participate in activities. Community support and participation is excellent. The major goal of the program is to give the students the information and skills to make the choice to refrain from sexual activity while setting goals and daring to Dream.